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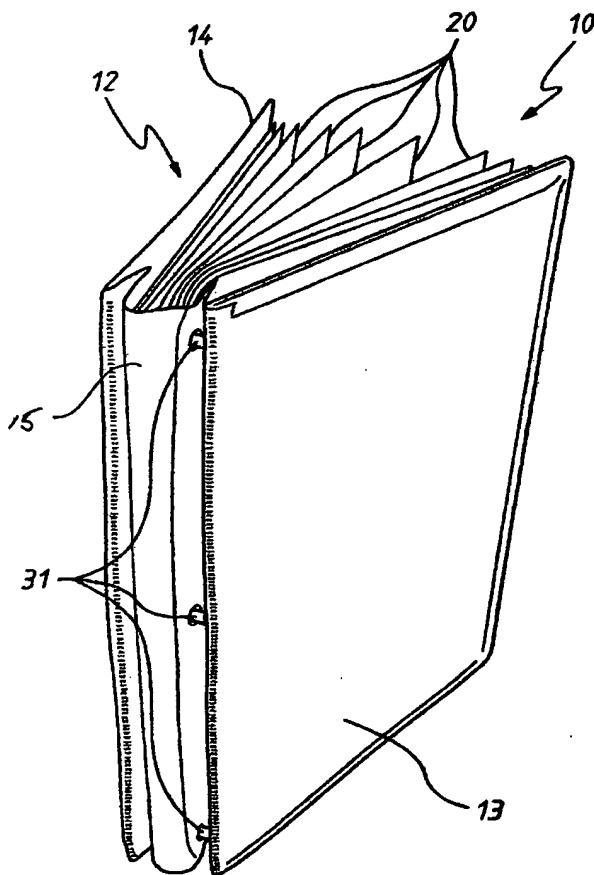
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: DISPLAY DEVICE FOR GREETING CARDS



(57) Abstract: A display device (10) for greeting cards and like memorabilia which include a plurality of leaves. The device (10) includes a cover (12) and a plurality of display sheaths (20) mountable within the cover (12). Each display sheath (20) includes at least two pocket sections (21, 22) each having an access opening (28, 29), the access opening (28, 29) facing one another. The arrangement is such that each pocket section (21, 22) can receive a respective one of the leaves of a greeting card (60) or the like, each pocket section (21, 22) including transparent regions which facilitate the viewing of the various faces of the leaves of the greeting card (60).



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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

- 1 -

DISPLAY DEVICE FOR GREETING CARDS

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This invention relates generally to a display device suitable for use with greeting cards and like memorabilia and more particularly, though not exclusively to multi leave greeting cards.

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Generally when greeting cards celebrating an important event are received they are often simply stored loosely in a box or drawer. This not only causes a problem if a person wants to re-read the cards but they often tend to get lost or can suffer damage.

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It is an object of the present invention to provide an improved display device which alleviates one or more of the aforementioned problems.

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According to one aspect of the present invention there is provided a display device for greeting cards and like memorabilia which include a plurality of leaves, the device including a cover and a plurality of display sheaths mountable within the cover, each display sheath including at least two pocket sections each having an access opening, the access openings facing one another, the arrangement being such that each pocket section can receive a respective one of the leaves of a greeting card or the like, each pocket section including transparent regions which facilitate the viewing of the various faces of the leaves of the greeting card.

25

Each pocket section of each display sheath may include a back panel and a front panel secured together at least partially around the peripheral edge portion thereof with the access opening for each pocket section being adjacent one another when in use. In one embodiment the panels may be generally square or rectangular in shape having a top side edge, a bottom side edge and inner and outer side edges, the top, bottom and outer side edges being secured together with the access opening being at the inner side edge.

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- 2 -

Preferably the front panel is of lesser width than the back panel so that the inner side edge of the front panel is spaced inwardly from the inner side edge of the back panel and forming the access opening. In one embodiment the pocket sections are secured together in the region of the inner side edge of the back panels. In another embodiment the pocket
5 sections are separate units which are adapted to be held together when in the cover.

In one embodiment the cover may include a front cover panel and rear cover panel, the display sheaths being mounted so as to be sandwiched therebetween. The cover panels can be made from any suitable material such as plastics, paperboard or the like and can be
10 of any suitable shape. The various components may be assembled together and held by means of screens, gluing or any other suitable mounting arrangement. The sheaths may be formed from any suitable material such as for example transparent plastics material. Each sheath may include a mounting section by which the sheath and the front and rear cover panels are operatively connected. The device may include a spine element which holds the
15 mounting section of the sheaths therein.

A preferred embodiment of the invention will hereinafter be described with reference to the accompanying drawings, and in those drawings:

20 Figure 1 is a schematic illustration of a display device according to the present invention;

Figure 2 is a schematic view of a display sheath for use with the display device of the present invention; and
25

Figure 3 is a similar view to that of Figure 2 with a greeting card shown in position.

Referring to the drawings there is shown a display device generally indicated at 10 which includes a cover 12 having a front cover panel 13 and a rear cover panel 14. A
30 plurality of display sheaths 20 for greeting cards and the like are disposed between the front and rear cover panels 13 and 14.

- 3 -

As best seen in Figure 2, each display sheath 20 includes two pocket sections 21 and 22 which include two panel sections sealed along their side edges 23, 24 and 25 and have an open side 28 and 29 facing one another. Two pockets 26 and 27 are formed which are adapted to receive a respective leaf of a greeting card 60. In the embodiment shown the pocket sections 21 and 22 are a single unit however they may be separate from one another but adapted to be held together when positioned within the cover.

The sheaths 20 are formed from transparent plastics material and include a mounting section 30 by which the sheaths 20 and front and rear cover panels 13 and 14 can be assembled together and held by means of screws 31 or other fasteners. A flexible spine element 15 holds the sheaths 20 together.

It will be apparent that with such an arrangement each face of the greeting card can be viewed without the need to remove the greeting cards from the display sheath with which it is associated. The sheath also provides protection for the greeting card.

Finally, it is to be understood that various alterations, modifications and/or additions may be incorporated into the various constructions and arrangements of parts without departing from the spirit or ambit of the invention.

- 4 -

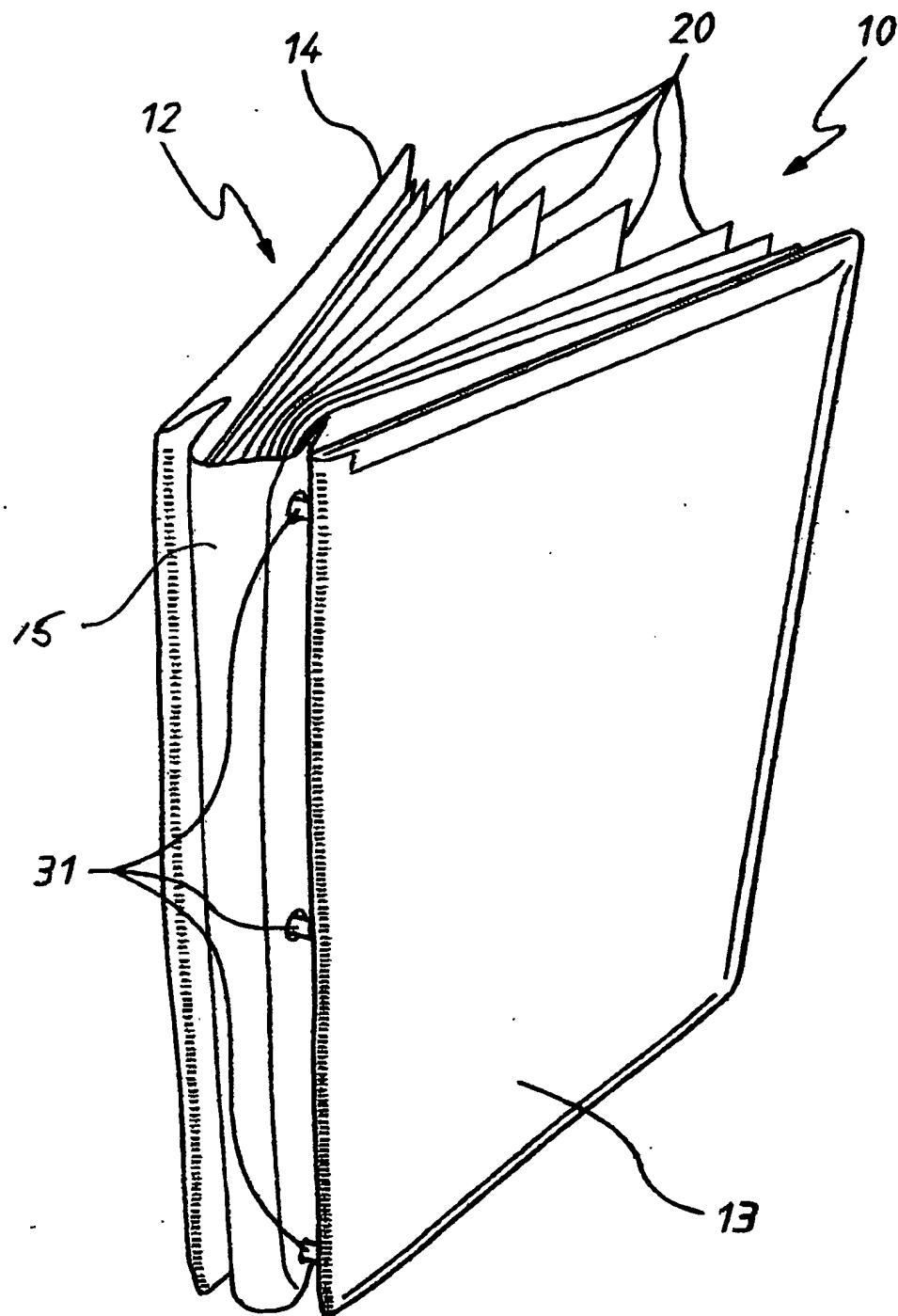
THE CLAIMS:

1. A display device for greeting cards and like memorabilia which include a plurality of leaves, the device including a cover and a plurality of display sheaths mountable within the cover, each display sheath including at least two pocket sections each having an access opening, the access openings facing one another, the arrangement being such that each pocket section can receive a respective one of the leaves of a greeting card or the like, each pocket section including transparent regions which facilitate the viewing of the various faces of the leaves of the greeting card.
2. A display device according to claim 1 wherein each pocket section of each said display sheath includes a back panel and a front panel secured together at least partially around the peripheral edge portion thereof with the access opening for each pocket section being adjacent one another when in use.
3. A display device according to claim 2 wherein the panels are generally square or rectangular in shape having a top side edge, a bottom side edge and inner and outer side edges, the top, bottom and outer side edges being secured together with the access opening being at the inner side edge.
4. A display device according to claim 2 or claim 3 wherein the front panel is of lesser width than the back panel so that the inner side edge of the front panel is spaced inwardly from the inner side edge of the back panel and forming the access opening.
5. A display device according to any preceding claim wherein the pocket sections are secured together in the region of the inner side edge of the back panels.
6. A display device according to any one of claims 2 to 4 wherein the pocket sections are separate units which are adapted to be held together when in the cover.

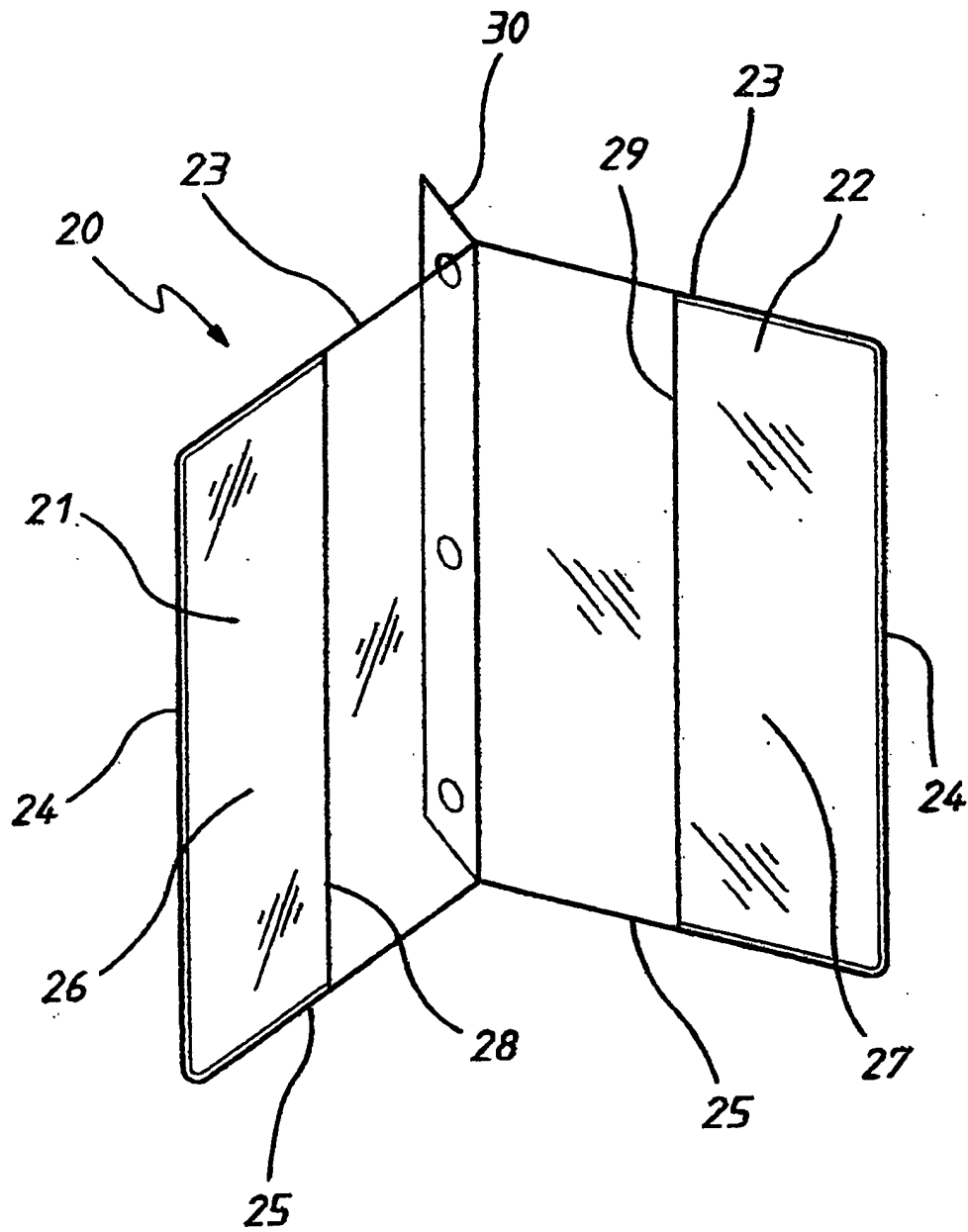
- 5 -

7. A display device according to claim 1 wherein the cover includes a front cover panel and rear cover panel, the display sheaths being mounted so as to be sandwiched therebetween.
8. A display device according to any preceding claim wherein the sheaths are formed from transparent plastics material.
9. A display device according to claim 8 wherein each sheath includes a mounting section by which the sheath and the front and rear cover panels are operatively connected.

1/3

FIG. 1

2/3

FIG. 2

3/3

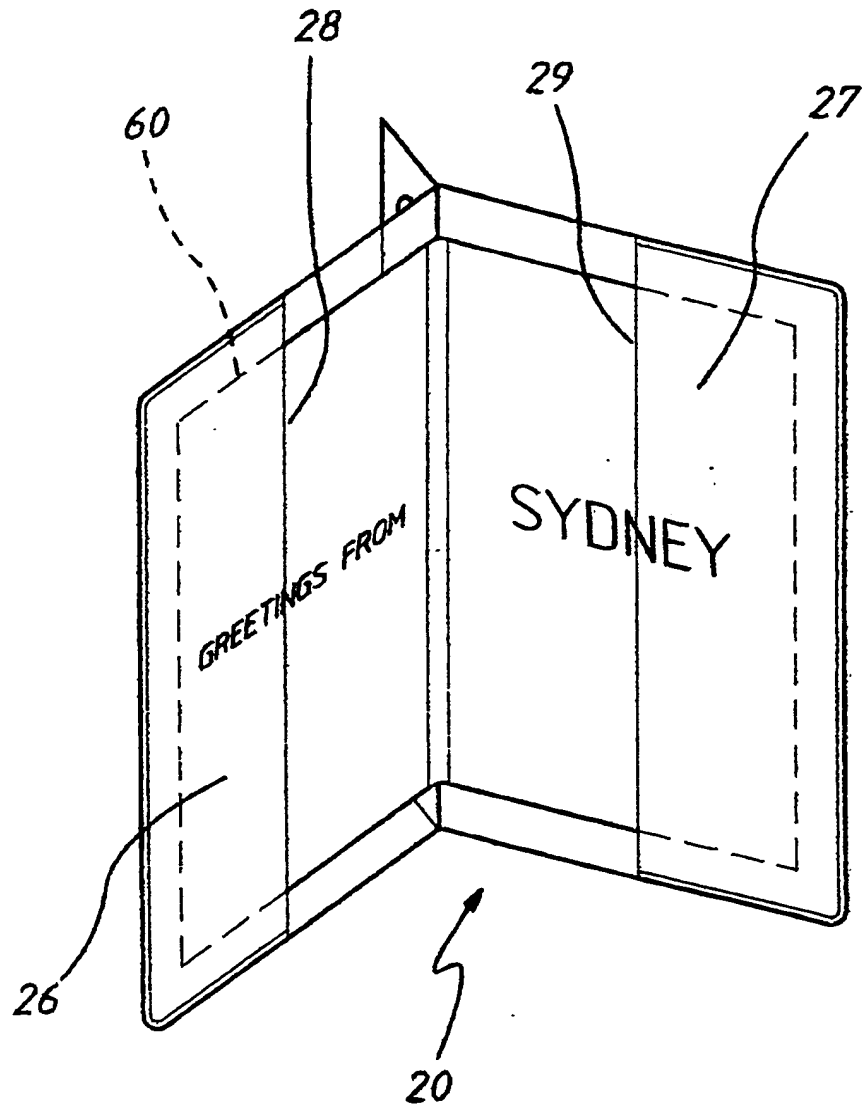


FIG. 3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER Int. Cl. ⁷ : B42D 1/06 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC					
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) DWPI:IPC G09F; B42F; B42D & keywords: leaves, page, sheet, pocket, slip, envelope, sleeve, sheath, transparent, display, album, folder, memorabilia, cover, card, greeting and similar terms.					
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.			
X	CA 2194425 A1 (MCKENZIE) 6 July 1998 Whole document	1-9			
X	US 5713684 A (TURECAMO) 3 February 1998 Whole document	1-9			
X	US 2002/0171237 A1 (WU) 21 November 2002 Whole document	1-9			
Y	US 5752721 A (BALBAS) 19 May 1998 Whole document	1-9			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex					
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<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p>				
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaustalia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929		Authorized officer KAREN VIOLANTE Telephone No : (02) 6283 7933			

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/000878

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5772349 A (TUBERGEN) 30 June 1998 Whole document	1-9
Y	JP 09039458 A (FUJITA) 10 February 1997 Whole document	1-9
A	JP 2001105780 A (MK BAG YG) 17 April 2001 Whole document	1-9
A	FR 2809346 A1 (DAUBIN ET AL) 30 November 2001 Whole document	1-9

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/000878

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member
CA	2194425	NONE
US	5713684	NONE
US	2002171237	NONE
US	5752721	NONE
US	5772349	NONE
JP	9039458	NONE
JP	2001010578	NONE
FR	2809346	NONE
Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.		
END OF ANNEX		